

Decision Notice
and
Finding of No Significant Impact
for
Bauska Easement
Environmental Assessment

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Region 1
490 N. Meridian
Kalispell, MT 59901

April 9, 2003

Description of the Proposed Action:

The proposed action is to grant an easement to access private property through FWP property above McGregor Lake.

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks proposed to grant a new 40-foot right-of-way (ROW) easement on the McGregor Peak Road. In addition rights of way would be granted for two spur roads. Spur 1 would be a 40-foot width for the ROW, with restrictions limiting the use to two single-family residences and outbuildings. Spur 2 would be a 40-foot ROW with restrictions limiting the use to one single-family residence and outbuildings. All roads could be used for future natural resource management. Bauska would vacate that portion of the McGregor Peak Road ROW from the Spur 2 junction to the Bauska property line and would give up the original 66-foot-wide easement on the McGregor Peak Road.

This action will have to be approved by the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund before it would be pursued; however, this action should satisfy both the value and habitat requirements required by LWCF.

Public Comment:

Two written comments were received. Both opposed the granting of this easement, as Bauska already has one access, and it was felt any additional access should be developed on that property. However, with further research it appears that Bauska may already have a legal easement on Spur 2, and the granting of the easement on Spur 1 will limit future development of this property.

Finding of No Significant Impact:

Based on the analysis in the Environmental Assessment (EA), I find Alternative 3, granting the easement with right of way restrictions, to be the preferred alternative. This alternative appears to meet the needs of the Land and Water Conservation Fund, provide

for limits on future development, and meet the needs of Bauska. I have evaluated the EA and applicable laws, regulations, and policies and have determined that this action will not have a significant effect on the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement will not be prepared.

The final environmental assessment and the FONSI may be viewed at or obtained from Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Region One, 490 N. Meridian, Kalispell, MT 59901. Please direct requests and questions to:

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Daniel P. Vincent
Regional Supervisor

Date